

Those in attendance: Thomas Wilson Eric Roberts Don Vonder Meulen

Franklin County Auditor: Carol L. Monroe

\*Thomas Wilson opens meeting with pledge of allegiance

I. Weekly Tax Report

- a. Carol L. Monroe – on the phone with Neil Picket this morning from the Governor’s office and he is going to call over to the DLGF to see what he can do
- b. Rebecca Oglesby – it is getting down to crunch time
- c. Don Vonder Meulen – Dan Jones called me Friday and he said he had all of the work done and he thinks it will be finished today. We shall see.

II. Reform Tax Bill

- a. Rebecca Oglesby – received an email from Don Vonder Meulen
- b. Don Vonder Meulen – we are always complaining about what the State does. If this is something that we think will be a good thing then we ought to say something.
- c. Sharon Halcomb – maybe change shall to would like to see (referring to email-see attached)
- d. Rebecca Oglesby – I would like to see fact and figures
- e. Thomas Wilson – they are wanting to up sales tax by 2%
- f. Rebecca Oglesby – we don’t have the man power or software to do these things
- g. Don Vonder Meulen – Becky, you thought we should have a meeting on this
- h. Rebecca Oglesby – I would. Do you want individuals to respond back?
- i. Don Vonder Meulen – that invitation we got to Barnes and Thornburg for next Wednesday, it will be right in the middle of budget hearings; should we have someone attend that?
- j. Eric Roberts – would it be better if we sat down as a county and wrote a similar letter.
- k. Don Vonder Meulen – it is an opportunity to have our voices heard
- l. Thomas Wilson – 1:00 today-continue meeting

III. Statewide Voter Registration

- a. Marlene Flaspohler – review information with Commissioners
- b. Thomas Wilson – we will let Gene (Stewart) look over it and get it back to you

IV. Metamora Sewer Project Update

- a. Dennis Anness – We have approximately \$150,000.00 of contingency money. We have items in the budget we have not had approved by rural development. Coalminer is starting today the hookups. Reviews budget. \$30,000.00 we are retaining for legal fees. Attorney fees can be asked for in the suit. We have to wait until November 16<sup>th</sup> or after to enforce the compliance. According to our records; Henry Ferguson needs replaced and Jean Owens needs re-appointed. Annabelle Looker and Bill Gulley is coming up. We have some names of individuals of people that would be interested if you would like. We have sent certified letters to all property owners. The home owners can hook up their own plumbing if they attended the training session. Once the plumber has that done he can contact Ray Robinson and if it is approved it can be covered up.
- b. Thomas Wilson – on the electric, are you still planning on helping the homeowner if they are going to upgrade?
- c. Dennis Anness – no, that was not ever part of that. The low income can go through rural development for hook up fees.
- d. Thomas Wilson – I thought at one time they were going to help?
- e. Dennis Anness – rural development has been very strict on what we do for one we have to do for all.
- f. Thomas Wilson – are they obligated by law to provide the electric. I was always under the understanding the district would provide the electric.
- g. Dennis Anness – we cannot force Duke to do what PSI was going to do
- h. Thomas Wilson – so you are going to force it on to the homeowner?
- i. Dennis Anness – yes
- j. Thomas Wilson – is there an average?
- k. Jean Owen – the average is two or three dollars per year
- l. Thomas Wilson – what is your discount per month?
- m. Dennis Anness – we have not set that yet. Several of them will needed upgraded I am sure. A lot of the shops.
- n. Eric Roberts – did you ever have any contracts with PSI/Cinergy
- o. Dennis Anness – no
- p. Eric Roberts – if you would have had it in writing, you would have had them (Duke).
- q. Thomas Wilson – by November 15 the whole system will be up and running?
- r. Dennis Anness – the hearthstone is already on and others are going on today. Our hopes is everyone is on by Nov. 15. September 1 they will actually start paying
- s. Jean Owen – on the public restroom by the fire house, economic dev has been paying the bills but when it goes on DNR will be picking it up.
- t. Dennis Anness – thinks will have problems with DNR. And the State hasn’t put one dime in it.
- u. Thomas Wilson – will you have a maintenance man
- v. Dennis Anness – there are a lot of things that need to be avoided. Restaurants will have to put in grease traps. Will probably have someone available through the first few months. We have joined the Indiana association of water sewer districts. They have a lot of free advice on expenses and training. Laurel doesn’t have grinder pumps, so that is some more we need training on.
- w. Thomas Wilson – if jean can get the rates for us and the names emailed to us

- V. Welsh Drive and Galway Court
- Larry Franzman – two weeks ago George, Chester and I went out and basically have a problem with one area. The culvert has been cleaned out and stone set to the side. (flip tape one) (reviews photo's with Commissioners). In all fairness, that has probably been there all along. Don't see need to extend their bond. Everything is done that we asked them to do
- VI. CPI Supply (Steve Meyer)
- Steve Meyer, I am governmental affairs – I am a former commissioner of Scott County. We have done a little bit of work with you and George. We have put together a very good team to help you with your culvert problems. We would like to have an opportunity to earn your business. I wish you had your meetings on Wednesday so I could go the flea market. We have been able to use some cheap/low cost solutions. We are at your beckon call.
  - Thomas Wilson – is this conspan?
  - Steve Meyer – yes. We just tried to take it to another level to pre-engineer services. If you have any questions just call.
- VII. Historic Metamora Board Appointments
- Thomas Wilson – they had an election (Thursday, July 26, 2007). It should be on a weekend when everyone is there and knows about it
  - Don Vonder Meulen – do we have their minutes?
  - Susan Jones – the last one I have is May
  - Don Vonder Meulen – I will be at the next meeting
  - Eric Roberts – they haven't sent us minutes in a few months
  - Don Vonder Meulen – it seems people attend when there is something on an agenda, but I guess that is normal for any meeting
  - Carol L. Monroe – are you putting this board back in place?
  - Thomas Wilson – they have a six month trial that is not up yet
  - Eric Roberts – they wait until the last minute to get this to us.
  - Susan Jones – I will try to get a hold of Sherri to get the minutes
  - Eric Roberts – (get) minutes and attendance records and proof of notification of election
  - Don Vonder Meulen – would like them to continue to work as an advisory council
  - Thomas Wilson – they don't have any power anyway
- VIII. Quote for Salt (Morton Salt)
- Thomas Wilson – move to accept Morton Salt for \$47.06-delivered (estimated 850 tons)
  - Eric Roberts – seconds the motion
  - Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor
- IX. Weekly Highway Engineer Report, George Hartman
- Bridge #100 / Johnson Fork Road North of Snowhill Road Covered Bridge
    - See photo (2)
    - Barth has completed progress estimate sheet
    - The road is officially closed to traffic
  - Bridge #110 / Railfence Road over Salt Creek and Bridge #111 / Railfence Road over Harvey Branch
    - See fax from Brenda Fox (tape 2)
  - Programmatic Sign Improvement Project / Federal Aid Hazard Elimination and Safety Funds (Des. No. 0501216)
    - Meeting scheduled for this Thursday
    - State board of accounts in agreement of running the account in the red
    - Carol L. Monroe – I would not get too carried away. You are taking money away from the other funds. Don't think the County Treasurer would appreciate that.
  - 2008 Cumulative Bridge Funds
    - See spreadsheet
    - Reviews spreadsheet with Commissioners
- X. E.P.A. Lawsuit
- Thomas Wilson – we didn't find out a whole lot. Their (new) expert didn't understand our information.
  - Eric Roberts – we are basically back at square one
  - Thomas Wilson – our attorney has to have more information back to them
- XI. Claims (August 20)
- Thomas Wilson – motion to approve
  - Eric Roberts – seconds the motion
  - Don Vonder Meulen – all in favor
- XII. Minutes (August 13)
- Eric Roberts – motion to approve
  - Don Vonder Meulen – seconds the motion
  - Thomas Wilson – all in favor
- XIII. Recess until 1:00
- XIV. Reconvene – Email from Don Vonder Meulen
- Thomas Wilson – feelings on reorganizing government
  - Rebecca Oglesby – wasn't impressed with it. The tax credit thing, it is not going to happen. You are going to have a hornets nest.
  - Eric Roberts – our concerns are more like Union and Ripley County than like Elkhart County.
  - Rebecca Oglesby – recommended (to Governor) that sales tax go towards school. They need to cap the spending on school.
  - Thomas Wilson – not entirely cap it but if they want to have a capital project, it should not only be the school board.

- f. Rebecca Oglesby – it is the people’s fault more as to why we don’t put the cap on. How many of us go to the school board meetings. How to solve our property tax property problems-adding 1% would be 400 million. We ought to be sending some kind of letters. It is not local government spending as it is your schools.
  - g. Don Vonder Meulen – it is nice to have beautiful school buildings
  - h. Thomas Wilson – I think we should do our own letter (flip tape 2)
  - i. Rebecca Oglesby – we got to do something. Sales tax is not a reliable source, but we have to do something. It cannot be the foundation. We should go up a little bit (sales tax). Gross income off of gaming license 533million. They retain 54 million.
  - j. Don Vonder Meulen – would be good to sign on to have more of an impact.
  - k. Rebecca Oglesby – don’t want to be running side by side with the big dogs
- XV. Inventory tags
- a. Sandy Baxter – need a few questions answered
  - b. Commissioners review and instruct to proceed
- XVI. Vehicles parked in fire lane
- a. Susan Jones – issue of vehicle parking in fire lane next to school admin building
  - b. Thomas Wilson – will talk to owner of vehicle
- XVII. Adjourn
- a. Don Vonder Meulen – motion to adjourn
  - b. Eric Roberts – seconds the motion
  - c. Thomas Wilson – all in favor

Those also in attendance:

Susan Jones, Secretary	Carol Westerman, P-T Secretary	George Hartman, Engineer
Larry Franzman, Area Plan Director	Sharon Halcomb, County Assessor	Rebecca Oglesby, County Treasurer
Sandy Baxter, Deputy Auditor	Hollie Sintz, Highway Secretary	Jean Owens
Dennis Anness	John Cookendorfer	Steve Meyer
John Estridge, Whitewater Publication	Diane Raver	Earsel Caudill

To be approved 08/27/07